

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3624
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
AIR TRAFFIC RIGHTS
Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the guidelines/methodology being used for giving traffic entitlements to domestic and foreign carriers; and
- (b) the seat entitlements given to airlines of Middle Eastern countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr. Mahesh Sharma)

(a): Grant of traffic rights to scheduled domestic carriers depend on the request received from them based on their commercial judgment and availability of traffic rights to operate on international route. While allocating traffic rights, priority is given to the operational plan of Air India. Allocation of traffic entitlements to foreign carriers are made by the respective countries within capacity entitlements agreed between the two countries on the basis of bilateral air service agreements.

(b): The seat entitlement is not given to foreign airlines directly. However, capacity entitlements enhanced to Middle Eastern countries from 2011 onwards are as under:

- i) No entitlements enhanced to Iran, Turkey, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Syria, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Cyprus.
- ii) Entitlements enhanced to Oman- 4466 seats per week (2012), Egypt - 7 services per week (2014), Dubai - 8800 seats per week (2014) and Abu Dhabi - 11000 seats per week (2013) and 12800 seats per week (2014).